

# MONTEREY COUNTY Labor News

Covering the Counties of Monterey and San Benito

VOL. XV—NO. 43

SALINAS, CALIF., TUESDAY, JUNE 16, 1953

WHOLE NO. 765

## Salinas Council Elections Begin; Few Contests Seen

Annual election of officers of the Monterey County Central Labor Council at Salinas was started at the first June meeting with incumbents nominated for re-election without opposition. Nominations will be completed at this Friday night's meeting with the election at the first July meeting.

Nominated thus far are:

**For President**—R. A. Wood (Machinists); **For Vice President**—Jimmie Butler (Barbers); **For Secretary-Treasurer**—J. A. Clark (Culinary-Bartenders); **For Sergeant-at-Arms**—Carl Jones (Laborers); **For Executive Board**—Wray D. Empe (Laborers), Harvey B.

Baldwin (Carpenters), M. L. Martin (Carpenters), Peter A. Greco, (Painters), John Lewis (Teachers), Robert Shinn (Butchers); John F. Mattos (Laborers), D. W. McPherson (Dry Cleaners).

**For Trustees**—Harvey Baldwin (Carpenters); Arthur Reina (Projectionists); **For Organizing Committee**—Greco, Baldwin, Empe; **For Negotiating Committee**—Baldwin, Clark, Shinn; **For Press Committee**—Butler, McPherson, Janet Barber (Teachers).

Council business at the last meeting was lengthy and varied, Secretary Clark reports. Highlights include:

**Report that the Rodeo Parade Float Committee** is now soliciting bids for the construction of the float.

Adoption of amendments to council by-laws, most of these being routine.

Vote of "full support and cooperation" to Laborers Union 272 in its contract dispute and actions.

**Referral of election of a delegate to the State Federation of Labor Convention to the June 19 meeting.**

**Donation of \$10 to the State Federation of Teachers** in its current fund drive.

**Endorsement of proposed legislation for two bills which would provide benefits to working mothers, and for aid to the physically handicapped.**

## Carp. Council Holds Meeting

Monterey Bay District Council of Carpenters held its regular meeting in Watsonville last week with business chiefly routine, according to Mike Craner, business agent of Watsonville Local 771, host to the gathering.

Attendance at the district meeting was good and discussions were held on contract matters and the current dispute of the Laborers Union.

On June 2, a British Jaguar finished first in the second annual 1,000-mile Acropolis car rally in Greece. The car was driven by a Greek driver.

## LABORERS 690 RE-ELECTS ALL KEY OFFICERS

Key incumbents were returned to office by Laborers Union 690 of Monterey in last week's election. George E. Jenkins, secretary-treasurer, was not up for election at this time.

**Elected were:**  
**President**—Perry M. Luce.  
**Vice Pres.**—Emmet M. Woods.  
**Sgt.-at-Arms**—George Wise.  
**Exec. Board**—Wilbert Wheeler, Fred Vreedenburg and Kenneth Holt.

**Trustees**—Louis A. Casati, Louis Lange and Carl Byrum.

**Northern Council Delegates**—George E. Jenkins, Louis A. Casati and Perry M. Luce.

**Bldg. Council Delegates**—George E. Jenkins, Pete Doubrozelski and George Wise.

**Monterey Labor Council Delegates**—Emmet M. Woods and George Wise.

## WILSON ELECTED PROJECTIONISTS' BUSINESS AGENT

James Wilson, of Santa Cruz, was elected business agent of Motion Picture Operators Union 611 in a special election held recently. He succeeds Ray Beck, of Watsonville, who resigned as union representative but was elected an executive board member at large.

Wilson is well known in union circles, having served prior to Beck's terms as business agent. Beck's resignation was said due to press of other affairs.

Local 611 paid tribute at its last meeting to Arthur Ralph Reina, Salinas projectionist, who was presented with a gold life membership card in consideration of 35 years of membership. Reina had been awarded a gold pin last year.

The International Alliance of Theatrical and Stage Employees has presented very few gold life membership cards, and those which have been awarded went chiefly to actors, it was reported.

## Meet Called

Officials of unions in Salinas which are signatory to the master contract with Permanente Metals Corp. were asked to attend a contract meeting in San Jose on Tuesday on Tuesday of this week. Permanente plants in this area are at Moss Landing and Natividad.

## 400 Contractors Now Paying Laborers \$2.05 Despite AGC Pressure Against Settling

The latest reports from eight Northern California counties indicate that hundreds of independent contractors and some members of the A.G.C. have signed interim agreements or have come to verbal understandings with Laborer Locals to pay the \$2.05 scale, the Northern District Council of Laborers reports.

**SAN FRANCISCO CITY AND COUNTY:** Between 40 and 50 contractors, employing a total of about 300 construction laborers, are paying the new scale. Ten of these have signed the interim wage agreements; between 30 and 40 have given verbal assurances. Nine jobs from which laborers have been withdrawn are being picketed. There are approximately 2000 construction laborers in the area.

**MARIN COUNTY:** Exactly 109 contractors have signed interim agreements; an additional 11, among them five A.G.C. members, have verbally agreed to pay the scale and are paying it. One large contractor with a tract now under way near Tiburon is among these; this firm has also undertaken to guarantee that all subcontractors involved will pay the new scale. There are 483 licensed contractors in Marin County, but it is unlikely that more than 200 are active and affected by the strike; it seems likely that about half of the active general contractors have either a written or verbal agreement with us. About 20 contractors are being picketed. More than 200 of our members are at work at the \$2.05 scale out of a total of 600 construction laborers in the county. Business Agents Trimble and Justice report "marvelous cooperation" from the other trades. Officers of the two Carpenter Locals are being especially helpful.

**CONTRA COSTA COUNTY:** 34 Contractors have signed interim agreements; 70 have made verbal agreements with the Union. About 600 of the Contra Costa Local's 1800 construction members are working for \$2.05. The Local reports "several" A.G.C. members among those with verbal agreements. Two local home builder organizations have expressed themselves as dissatisfied with the A.G.C. policy. To sum up, about 20 per cent of the County's contractors are paying the new scale; the majority of the remainder are unwilling captors of the A.G.C. line. (Continued on Page Eight)

## LABORERS WAIT NEW CONTRACT

Officials of Laborers Unions in Santa Cruz, Salinas and Monterey announced last weekend that resumption of negotiations with the AGC (Associated General Contractors) was awaited in hope of gaining a new contract and wage hike.

The officials, Paul Burnett of Santa Cruz Local 283, Wray D. Empe of Salinas Local 272, and George E. Jenkins of Monterey Local 690, said union laborers are refusing to work for contractors not paying the requested wage increase. Where necessary, pickets were used to prevent non-union laborers from doing work.

## Clark, Knight Named to Attend Coming Parleys

Culinary-Bartenders Union 355 of Salinas has named its business representatives to attend coming state conventions, it was reported last week.

Secy.-Treas. A. J. Clark will attend the conventions of the California State Council of Culinary Workers & Bartenders and of the California State Federation of Labor, both in San Francisco.

Bus. Agt. Virgil Knight will attend the State Culinary-Bartender Council meetings.

Clark was to travel to San Francisco last Saturday for a special conference to discuss unemployment compensation matters.

At the last meeting of Local 355, five new members were initiated and eight others accepted by transfer or reinstatement.

The negotiations committee reported that the industry had rejected union suggestions for a new contract and that negotiations will continue. Donation of \$25 to the labor council float committee was authorized.

## Completing Apprentices Feted At Salinas Graduation Dinner

Apprentices who have completed their training in recent weeks under direction of various unions in the Salinas area were presented with certificates as journeymen at a dinner party at Santa Lucia Inn last Friday night.

With Harvey Baldwin, business agent of Carpenters Union 925 as master of ceremonies, a full program of short talks and ceremony was presented. Invocation was given by the Rev. Merle Tollefson.

Mayor E. J. Raffetto of Salinas gave the keynote talk on "Participation in Community Service." A symposium on apprenticeship included as speakers Robert Hanley, plumbing apprentice; Joe McPherson, contractor; Albert Miller, Carpenters Union 925 official; C. I. Bentley, school representative; George Bardin, electrician and former local apprentice, and C. B. Richmond, apprenticeship field representative.

W. K. Ward, leader in Salinas apprentice matters, was presented with a certificate of meritorious service by Charles Hanna, assistant chief of the state Division of Ap-

prenticeship Standards.

Officials of joint apprenticeship committees presented certificates to the following apprentices:

**Automotive**—Steve Howell, Floyd J. Latham and Robert Vaughn.

**Carpentry**—Robert Shipp, John Adams, Corbit Burks, Glenn R. Dodd, James Frost, Robert Garner, Dale Green, Elmer Ingram, Gerald Kaufman, Wayne Pierce, Wilbur Strader and Theodore Verser.

**Electrical**—Ernest Keema and Ralph Thomas.

**Painting**—C. D. Romines, Robert Taylor and Cecil Bell.

**Plumbing**—Roy Copp, Robert Hanley and Raymond Urueta.

**Sheet Metal**—Gene Friermuth.

**Typographical**—Raymond Martin.

Apprenticeship instructors are:

Gilbert Boyd, plumbing; Paul Cothran, auto mechanics; Virgil Fransen and Albert Miller, carpentry; Evan Williams, electricity; and Roy Hearn, painting. Consultants are Miss Helen E. Ward, evening school principal; C. I. Bentley, apprenticeship co-ordinator; C. B. Richmond, apprenticeship field representative, and William J. Logue, U. S. Department of Labor apprenticeship representative.

Members of apprenticeship committees include:

**General Council**—Harvey Baldwin, chairman; E. V. Drake, secretary.

**Automotive**—Leslie Parker, chairman; E. V. Drake, secretary; Harold Bradshaw, Harry Lawrence and John Williamson.

**Brickmasons and Tile Setters**—R. E. Baxter, M. Larkin and A. L. Robertson.

**Carpentry**—Walter R. Dodd, chairman; Russell Jeska, secretary; C. R. David, William F. Ramsey, W. A. Stivers, Virgil Fransen and Harvey Baldwin.

**Electricians**—Jim Mertz, chairman; Leland Knisley, secretary; Lucian Calliau, Louis Schallich, Dial H. Miles and Clifford W. Anderson.

**Butchers**—Clark Bannert, E. L. Courtright and William Gilbert.

**Painters**—Robert Ross, chairman; Olaf Guldbrandsen, secretary; Marius T. Nissen, Roy Hearn and Peter A. Greco.

**Plasterers and Cement Masons**—Ray T. Jones, chairman, Carl G. Smith, secretary; Frank Cortez, Sr.; and Burton Sisk.

**Plumbers**—Kenneth O. Baggett, chairman; D. J. Davis, secretary; Al Everly, R. K. Mills and Art Renney.

**Pressmen**—Robert P. Meders, secretary, and Manuel Silveria.

**Sheet Metal**—R. C. Winchell, chairman; Harry Linn, secretary; Don Berry, Raymond Doyle, and Kenneth Jones.

**Typographical**—Gilbert V. Baymiller, chairman; A. C. Davis, secretary; Paul Caswell and Charles Marbach.

## Salinas Painters Win Pay Increase

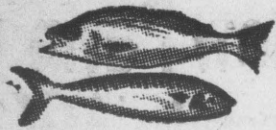
Contract covering members of Painters Union 1104 of Salinas has been consummated with the union winning a wage increase of 3 cents an hour plus a health and welfare plan.

Delegates to the Central Labor Council at Salinas reported the gain. Further details were not given. Peter Greco is business manager of Local 1104.

## Baldwin Attends Meeting in S.F.

Harvey B. Baldwin, business agent of Carpenters Union 925 of Salinas, was to attend the special conference on unemployment compensation "blue card" matters in San Francisco last Saturday. The conference was called by the California State Federation of Labor to consider changes in union procedure regarding claims for unemployment pay.

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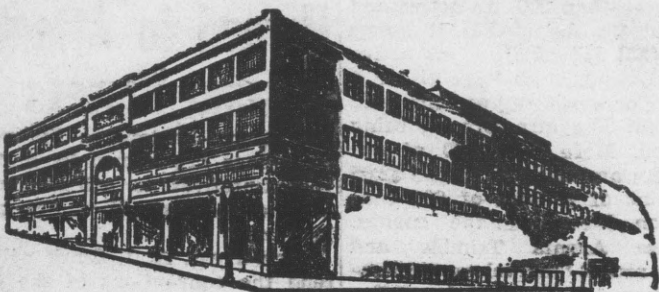
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Portland, Ore. (LPA) — The policy of the providing high-level services to the people of this city at the expense of sub-standard wages for city employees were condemned by the May meeting of the AFL Central Labor Council. Pete Leineweber of Fire Fighters Local 43 reported that the city council apparently had paid no attention to the petition of 12 AFL unions for fair and standard wage rates for their members who are city employees.

"If the city council cannot or will not raise sufficient revenues to pay comparable wages to city employees for the present city services they perform," the Central Labor Council resolution stated, "then we request the council to curtail present city services to the extent that will allow a fair and comparable wage to be paid for those services it deems absolutely necessary and able to retain at this time."

The council action was taken when it was learned that the new city budget did not provide for increases in the general wage level.

**Planes Save Trout**

Independence, Inyo County — Airplanes—which once threatened the high Sierra supply of California's official fish, are today being put to use by the Department of Fish and Game in an unprecedented program to save the colorful golden trout.

Twice a week, a State plane takes off from one of several meadows 10,000 feet up in the Sierra Nevada. It carries a load of fresh-taken golden trout eggs destined for the Mt. Whitney fish hatchery, near Independence.

Next year, the golden fingerlings will be planted in waters of the six-county golden trout management area by being dropped from another of the Department's air fleet.

Ironically, the airplane is credited by fish conservation officials with bringing the golden trout to its present dangerous state. In post-war years, California sportsmen in increasing numbers have been flying to the treacherous landing strips atop the Sierra and taking off with their day's catch. Just as the State plane now makes a 40-minute flight which used to take 16 hours by mule, the sportsman can accomplish in one daylight junket what used to take many days.

As part of the attempt to provide better fishing in these once-remote areas, the world's highest egg-taking station opened for business early this month at Cottonwood Lakes, in the shadow of Mt. Whitney, the Nation's highest peak. It is the key to the intensified golden trout management program adopted last year by the California Fish and Game Commission.

**Bulldozer Landed**  
**Near North Pole**

A huge cargo plane with an eight-ton bulldozer has landed on the Air Force's floating ice island near the North Pole, it was announced May 16 by Gen. John K. Cannon, head of Tactical Air Force. A Douglas C-214 from the 62nd Troop Carrier Group at Larson Air Force Base, Wash., made the delivery. The dozer is to be used in improving the runway on the ice island and keeping the strip clear of snow.

**Making Ends Meet**  
**Fall Shoes to Cost More:**  
**Milk Prices May Drop a Bit**

By NANCY PRATT

Your new fall shoes will probably cost you a dollar more this year. Wholesalers' increases of 20 to 40 cents in most shoe lines will hit the consumer by autumn. Men's shoes will probably reflect these wholesale increases most directly.

Although the cost of women's shoes will also be higher, pricing practices in women's wear known as "merchandizing increases" often conceal price hikes from the consumer.

The shoe manufacturer takes last year's shoe, adds a ribbon or a bow to it, and then tags it a dollar higher than the "old" shoe.

The shoe industry doesn't seem to feel that higher prices will cut sales. Production is now high in most factories and retailers report that business has increased by 5 percent since Easter.

**PLENTIFUL FOODS**

Judging by the supply, your best buys this month should come in beef, potatoes, tomatoes, onions, peanut butter, salad oils, raisins, and dairy products.

The recent overproduction in milk may produce some price declines despite government support. One survey reported that the price of home-delivered milk in 25 large cities averaged 22.9 cents a quart, down one-tenth of a cent from a year ago. This is the first drop in milk prices since 1950.

**TINNED FISH**

Salmon producers are being hit by falling meat prices. Canned salmon, formerly a good meat substitute at about 74 cents a pound tin, is now being outpriced by beef cuts, now retailing as low as 48 cents a pound.

Tuna fish is also moving into competition with salmon as American producers lower prices to meet foreign competition. Although salmon supplies are now low enough to support present prices, price tags on this item may

fall if meat competition continues.

**COOKING HINTS**

To get the first food value from potatoes cook them in their jackets. Mashed potatoes yield just as much food value as boiled potatoes if cooked first in their skins. Boiling conserves more vitamins than baking.

One pound of good fresh spinach will cook down to 3 or 4 one-half cup servings of cooked spinach.

**WASHDAY TIP**

Take a tip from home laundries and remember: the hotter the water the whiter the clothes. Do not over-soap fabrics and try not to alternate soaps and detergents in your machine. Stick to one product. Rinse water should always be lukewarm.

**WATERMELONS ARE RIPE**

And prices are slightly lower than last year for this summer special. Plantings of the late spring crop in Georgia and California are estimated at 23 percent higher than a year ago, so plenty of watermelons should be moving into markets in most sections of the country by mid-June.

**UNION LABEL**

Support American labor at the sign of the union label. Protect fellow workers, and help yourself by looking for that union label on everything you buy.

Nearly three million retired workers over 65 are now getting old-age benefit payments under social security.

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# SALINAS—Home of California Rodeo

## Council Sees Action on T-H Held Back by Big Business

(AFL Release)

The AFL Executive Council concluded its spring session in the nation's capital after hearing a report from President George Meany that powerful Big Business pressure upon Congress may prevent any action on Taft-Hartley amendments at this session.

Because of the "confused" situation in both House and Senate, the council refrained from making any formal statement but Meany insisted at a press conference that "the law has got to be changed."

Outstanding actions of the meeting included:

1. Demands that labor be given representation in top-level planning for a program to assure full production and high employment after defense outlays are cut back.

2. Call for a comprehensive housing program.

3. Support for a strong mutual security program to help our allies become self-sustaining, with encouragement of free labor abroad.

4. Criticism of moves in Congress to cut taxes immediately at the expense of national defense and world security.

5. Endorsement of protests by the American Federation of Musicians against use of service bands at private and unofficial functions, a practice which takes away the jobs of musicians.

### WARN 2 UNIONS

6. Warnings to 2 affiliated unions found to be derelict in carrying out the council's order to clean out racketeering elements.

7. Authorization to the AFL Peace Committee to seek agreement with the CIO on a no-raiding formula which, if negotiated, would be submitted for ratification to the convention as an important first step toward labor unity.

The menacing situation with regard to delay on action to improve the Taft-Hartley Act was spotlighted by the omission of this legislation from a "must list" announced by Congressional leaders

after a White House conference with President Eisenhower.

### ONLY 4 SHOW UP

Prospects for action before adjournment were further dimmed when the Senate Labor Committee postponed consideration of drafting amendments until June 3 when only 4 of the 13 committee members showed up for an earlier session.

While President Eisenhower pledged corrective action on the law, in his campaign and while he urged Congress to enact amendments in his State of the Union message, his party followers on Capitol Hill have been dragging their feet ever since it became apparent that business organizations would prefer to have the law remain as is.

In commenting on proposed changes included in a bill described by Chairman Smith of the Senate Labor Committee as the brain child of the committee's staff, Meany said that some of the provisions would undoubtedly make the law "tougher," so far as labor is concerned, while others represent a definite improvement.

Smith, however, emphasized that the bill does not necessarily represent the Eisenhower Administration's viewpoint.

The AFL council, after a 4-day session, adjourned until its next meeting in Chicago beginning Aug. 10.

## Strike Activity Rises Over Month

Washington.—Strike activity increased in April, according to preliminary estimates released by the U.S. Dept. of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Seven hundred strikes in effect during the month, including those started earlier and carried over, involved 350,000 workers as compared with 650 strikes in March involving 230,000 workers.

Man-days of idleness more than doubled, rising to 2.5 million from the March level of 1.1 million. However, idleness this April was less than half the April 1952 figure, which covered the nationwide basic steel strike and six other strikes involving more than 10,000 workers each.

Stoppages starting in the month numbered 500, with 275,000 workers idle, as compared with the March level of 450 stoppages and 180,000 workers idle.

Two new strikes in April were the brief stoppages of about 35,000 workers at 19 plants of the U.S. Rubber Co. and of 23,000 workers at Detroit plants of the Chrysler Corp. The only other stoppage of more than 10,000 workers was the strike at the N.J. Bell Telephone Co., beginning in March and ending April 29.

## Most Water, Sewer Jobs

California led the nation in the number of water and sewage projects approved by the government in the first quarter of this year. The state had seven sewer and 41 water projects with aggregate value of \$12.3 million.

Support your stewards!

## Factory Layoffs At 8-Year Low

Washington.—Nine workers out of every 1000 on factory payrolls were laid off in April, lowest lay-off rate for the month since 1945, the U.S. Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

Layoffs were almost a third below the rate of April last year. Sharpest over-the-year reductions were in textile and apparel plants. Three industry groups reported over-the-year increases—machinery, tobacco, and furniture.

Factory hiring rates for April also pointed to the continuation of a generally favorable employment situation, according to the Bureau. Hiring was at a rate of 42 per 1000 employees, compared with 37 per 1000 in the same month last year.

The number of factory workers quitting their jobs was up appreciably over the year. At 27 per 1000 employees, quits were almost one-fourth above the rate of April 1952, indicating the greater availability of alternate job opportunities for employed workers.

March to April changes in hiring, layoffs, and quits were relatively small and largely reflected seasonal factors, the Bureau said.

## 103 Texas Steelworkers Ordered Reinstated In Jobs With Back Pay

Marshall, Tex. (LPA)—Pretending a strike isn't a strike can cost management a lot of money.

Marshall Car Wheel and Foundry Co. found that out June 1 when the National Labor Relations Board ordered the firm to reinstate with back pay some 103 CIO Steelworkers fired Oct. 16, 1951, after walking off the job because they were dissatisfied with the progress of negotiations.

Company Vice-President Emory Fry tried to get off the hook by telling the NLRB he thought the men had "quit" when they walked out at 11 a.m. He said he therefore informed the union when it offered to send the men back at 3:30 p.m. the same day that all returning strikers would have to report to their foremen as new employees and would be accepted or rejected as the foremen saw fit.

The NLRB found, however, that no matter what Fry chose to call it, his action "was in all respects tantamount to discharging them, except that the word 'discharge' was not used."

The board pointed out that what the company tried to do was treat the strikers "collectively, as being in the same category as individual employees who violated company rules by absenting themselves during working hours without permission."

The back pay will start at 3:30 p.m. October 16, 1951, when the company imposed the "illegal condition" upon the men's return to work, discriminating against them for union activity, the NLRB ruled.

Reinstatement will carry with it full vacation and Christmas bonus credit and all other rights and privileges for the time off work. The company also has been ordered to stop interfering with the union.

## Injured Painter Wins 'Gamble,' Gets \$136,500

Detroit (LPA)—An "everything or nothing" gamble paid off for a member of Painters Local 675 to the tune of \$136,500 when the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals affirmed an award granted a year ago in Federal court here. Attorneys called the judgment the "largest ever rendered in a damage suit in Michigan."

On June 30, 1949, Clarence H. Buckner was knocked from a platform 75 feet high by a crane while painting on a steel mill construction, suffering crippling injuries. Reported to have been offered a \$90,000 settlement, he decided to gamble on obtaining a larger amount through the courts.

## Hollywood Viewed As 'Ghost Town' By AFL Leader

Hollywood (LPA) — A loophole in the income tax law is making Hollywood a "ghost town," Roy M. Brewer, president of the Hollywood AFL Film Council, charged in reporting a survey that showed many film actors, producers, directors and writers were leaving to make pictures in Europe.

He said local firms plan to produce at least 95 features abroad in the next 12 months and that number, added to the more than 100 foreign-made pictures now on the American market, represents more full-length movies than may be made here in the next year.

The filming abroad has cut employment of technical workers here by 50 percent, and if television had not taken up part of the slack the figure would be 75 percent, Brewer declared.


The tax wrinkle blamed for the exodus from Hollywood permits Americans working abroad for 17 months out of an 18-month period to retain their earnings tax-free.



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## MONTEREY COUNTY LABOR NEWS

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## Byrd Forgets Tax Cut

During the Truman Administration Sen. Harry Byrd always came up with his personal plan for balancing the budget. He said he could do it and produced black and white figures to prove it.

Yet, despite his addiction to Republican anti-Trumanism, Sen. Byrd now can't seem to find his figures. He, like all those Republicans who demanded and promised a balanced budget, is now saying that we can't balance the budget this year.

Of course, the corporations now don't really care whether it's balanced or not. Their excess profits tax is scheduled to die on June 30. Who cares about an unbalanced budget when Republicans are controlling Washington and when profits are high?—The New Era (Reading, Pa.).

## The Answer

The president of the American Medical Association, Dr. Louis Bauer of Hempstead, N.Y., admits there is a shortage of doctors. But he says the answer is "not more doctors but a better distribution of the doctors we have." He doesn't say how they can be distributed more widely.

The only feasible way is through a system of national health insurance that will guarantee doctors in small towns and rural areas—where the greatest shortages of physicians are found—that their bills will be paid.

Very few doctors, who have to buy food, shelter and clothing like the rest of us, care to practice in a small community because they can command more income and greater opportunities in larger towns and cities.

Under a system of prepaid health insurance, fees would be higher in the small population areas, and there would be better medical facilities available.

The result would be a more widely-spread distribution of medical services—to the benefit of the American people as a whole as well as to doctors as individuals.

## No Sales Tax Needed

Secretary of the Treasury George Humphrey says the Administration is considering a national sales tax. Such a tax would hit the middle and lower income families the hardest.

When the high-income family pays, say, a 3 per cent or 5 per cent sales tax, its standard of luxury is reduced slightly. But to the low-income family such a tax means fewer pairs of shoes, a less desirable house, fewer tools for home repair, less books to read.

A sales tax would soak the poor.

## Ike on Mount Rushmore?

The customarily powerful egotism of the employer class was no doubt behind the subtle-as-a-hog trick of having President Ike talk at Mt. Rushmore, where the heads of great presidents are plastered on the mountainside. Ike, too, has plenty of ego and no doubt would just love to have his head up there on the mountain.

In that speech Ike said his administration favors no one group, "not the laborers, not the veteran," etc., but rather all groups. We would like to correct him on that one. His gang does favor one group, very heavily—the wealthy. If you are rich, you get all the breaks from the present administration. It talks about helping the poor, but each and every one of its actions favor the rich.



GEORGE JENKINS

Bus. Agt. Laborers Union 690,  
Monterey

What will be the size of my benefit when I reach 65? This question is asked perhaps as often as any other in the Social Security office.

The exact amount of your payment can be determined only after you have filed your claim. However, you can get an idea of what the benefits will be. There are two different methods of figuring the old-age insurance amount.

The older method uses your average monthly wage beginning in 1937 and the newer method uses your average wage or self-employment income beginning only with 1951. Most people's average earnings will be higher since 1950 than since 1937. Payments based on average earnings beginning with 1951 are usually higher than those using wages beginning with 1937.

The average monthly wage beginning with Jan. 1, 1951 can be used in any case if the insured person has six quarters of coverage after 1950.

The average can be figured beginning with either 1937 or 1951, whichever will give the higher payment, if the insured person reaches 22 before 1951 and has earned six quarters of coverage after 1950. They must be figured by the older method if the insured person does not have six quarters of coverage after 1950.

Under either method, in estimating your monthly earnings be sure to count all the months starting with January 1937 or January 1951, whether or not you worked. (You may omit any months which were not part of a quarter of coverage and in which you were under 22 years of age.)

The minimum payment to an insured person who has retired is \$25 and the maximum is \$85 a month. Payments to members of your family are determined by your own monthly amount.

Your wife or dependent husband will get half as much as you do; your child will get half as much after you have retired; your widow will get three-fourths of what your payment would have been. Dependent widowers and parents get three-fourths and a child, upon your decease, gets a half plus a part of another fourth which is divided equally among all the children.

The total monthly payment to your family based on your Social Security account cannot be more than 80 per cent of your average earnings or more than \$168.80.

After your death, a lump sum of three times the amount of your monthly payment may be paid to your widow or widower, if you were living together, in addition to any monthly payments to entitled survivors. If there is no widow or widower, the person who paid the burial expenses can be repaid up to the amount of the lump sum.

In the next article, we will continue by giving the methods of estimating your payments.

For further information on your

## Oregon First State to Permit Child-Care Tax Deductions

Salem, Ore. (LPA)—While Congress dawdles over action to permit working mothers to use child-care expenses as a federal income tax deduction, Oregon has become the first state to put such a law on its books, effective for the calendar year 1953.

Enacted during the recent session of the Legislature, the law permits a maximum state income tax deduction of \$720 annually for child-care expenditures, if the taxpayer has an "adjusted gross income" of \$3,000 or less per year.

The law falls far short of the original bill introduced by Rep. Maurine Neuberger, but Mrs. Neuberger agreed to the sweeping amendments approved by the Oregon House and Senate because she felt it was "important to get the principle of child-care deduction written into law." She hopes the law can be "expanded and relaxed" later.

One of the chief objections to the law as enacted is that the husband and wife cannot earn more than the \$3,000 between them to be able to use the so-called "baby sitting" deduction. Mrs. Neuberger considers this restricts use of the deduction "far more than is fair or equitable."

Carlisle B. Roberts, chief counsel for the State Tax Commission, estimates that the deduction will mean a more than 50 per cent saving on state income tax for a young widow or divorcee with one child who has a \$3,000 adjusted gross income. Her tax without the deduction would be \$57, with it \$28.20.

He pointed out, however, that a person with a greater number of children might not get a "baby sitting" deduction at all because



FIRST TRY—Virginia Mayo wears a sarong for the first time for her role in Warner Bros. "South Sea Woman." The results aren't bad for first try. (LPA)

Social Security, get in touch with the Social Security Field Office at the address below:

Your Security Office is at 196 San Augustine St., San Jose 10. Phone CYpress 2-2480.

the low \$3,000 allowable adjusted gross income top might have been passed and all state income taxes already eliminated by dependency exemptions.

## Jokes, Etc.

Fear less, hope more; eat less, chew more; whine less, breathe more; talk less, say more; hate less, love more, and all good things are yours.—Lord Fisher.

He who sees his own faults is too much occupied to see the faults of others.—Arabic proverb.

Despotism may govern without faith, but liberty cannot.—De Tocqueville.

It's just as well to forget your old troubles, because there are more coming.—Anon.

Will power: The ability to eat one salted peanut.

On a little service station on the edge of an Arizona desert hangs this sign: "Don't ask us for information. If we knew anything we wouldn't be here."

"I simply can't stand my husband's nasty disposition," wept the young bride. "Why, he's made me so jittery that I'm losing weight." "Then why don't you leave him?"

"Oh, I'm going to," the bride answered, "I'm just waiting until he gets me down to 120 pounds."

Don't seek experience, you'll get enough of it if you just let nature take its course.—William Feather.

Few things are harder to put up with than the annoyance of a good example.—Mark Twain.

Make other people like themselves a little better . . . and I promise you they will like you very well.—Lord Chesterfield.

Soon after the fraternity house opened for the term, the brothers received a note from a sorority house across the street:

"Dear Sirs: Please procure curtains for your windows. We do not care for a course in anatomy." The boys' note of reply said: "Dear Girls: The course is optional."

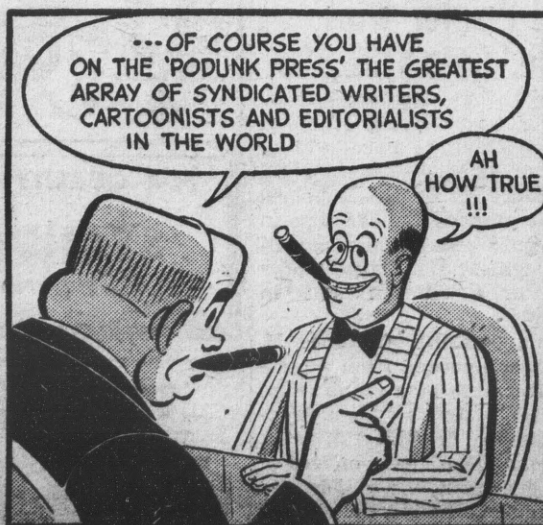
You are getting pretty old when you feel as young as you did.—James Green.

If you confer a benefit, never remember it; if you receive one, never forget it.—Chilon.

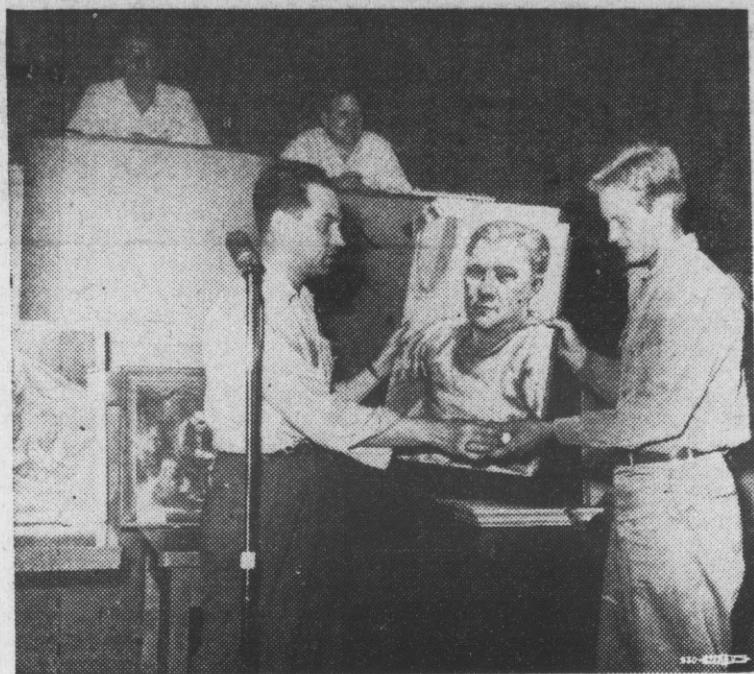
A lie that is half a truth is ever the blackest of lies.—Tennyson.

When a man has a rip in his coat and only three buttons on his vest, he should do one of two things: either get married or get divorced.—Anon.

## "UNION MAID"—A Serial Story



by Stan Jennings



**PRIZE PAINTING**—Second prize in the oils division of the AFL Seafarers annual art contest went to William Hope (right), who painted a portrait of a shipmate on a piece of wood shelving he found aboard ship. Hope receives congratulations from Herb Brand, editor of the "Seafarers Log." (LPA)

## What to Do About It

By I. B. PADWAY

Legislatures enact laws. Judicial tribunals and quasi judicial bodies by judicial decision usually render the law impotent. One of the humane and outstanding laws which was enacted for the first time in Great Britain was the Workmen's Compensation Law. Under the old English law, a person who sustained an injury while working for his employer could not recover, because it was held that the employee could not sue his employer. Hence, the enactment of the Workmen's Compensation Law.

The United States, commencing with the State of Wisconsin, patterned laws after the English Workmen's Compensation Act giving a right to the employee to receive medical treatment and compensation, so that he would not become a ward of the state and be subjected to charity. The states held that it was the employer's responsibility to see that a person received compensation, even though a small sum, while the employee was disabled, and that he received medical and hospital attention in order to cure him of his injury.

The Legislature from time to time made various changes of the law seeking to better the conditions of the benefits to which the employee was entitled. Just such a section was adopted in the State of California, titled Section 4553 of the Labor Code—"Misconduct of Employer, Increase of Compensation." This was enacted at least 30 years ago, and with several changes, has been the law up to the present time. This section held that an employee who was injured by reason of the serious and wilful misconduct of his employer is entitled to a penalty of one-half of what he would normally get in addition to his regular compensation.

When the Legislature enacted this section of the law, it was a sound law. Many an employer would gamble that his hired employee would not be hurt or become injured without a safeguard of some kind. This was because it might cost too much money to put this safeguard on a machine or equipment. So it was a wise thing that the Legislature enacted this safeguard for the employee and made the employer toe the mark.

There are hundreds of cases which have sustained this law. Constitutionality of the law was sustained as far back as 1920 under a previous law. Yet the Supreme Court and the Industrial Accident Commission feel that the Legislature did not mean what it said when it enacted Section 4553, "the amount of compensation otherwise recoverable shall be increased one-half where the employee is injured by reason of the serious and wilful misconduct of the employer."

At a recent hearing of a legislative committee held in the Supreme Court Building in the City of San Francisco, I appeared be-

fore that committee. I made the statement that in view of a recent decision rendered by the Supreme Court, the referees and members of the Industrial Accident Commission apparently have accepted as being out of whole cloth that the Supreme Court decision was a fiat to them, "that the employer can do no wrong." I said it was utterly impossible to win a serious and

wilful misconduct case before the Industrial Accident Commission.

The members of the Industrial Accident Commission state that was not true; that many serious and wilful misconduct cases were being won. I would like to take the record of the last twenty cases that were held on this issue, and I have my doubts whether more than one-fifth of these were won by the applicant. Frankly, I have my doubts that if the employer took an axe and deliberately chopped off the head of his employee whether the Commission today, because of the hysteria that now exists in relation to this section of the law, would make an award under Section 4553 as being that of misconduct of the employer.

### What to do about it?

Labor will have to sharpen its axes and have the Legislature amend the present law and spell out in no uncertain terms just what they mean by serious and wilful misconduct. This should be done so that the Industrial Accident Commission, its referees, and our Appellate Courts can have no doubt as to what the Legislature meant when it enacted the employer's "serious and wilful misconduct" clause of the Workmen's Compensation Act.



"Gave my wife the scare of her life yesterday . . . threatened to drop out of the union benefit plan."

## EMPLOYMENT LEVELING OFF

A seven-month uptrend in non-farm employment appears to have leveled off, the Bureau of Labor Statistics has reported.

"Between March and April—for the second consecutive month—nonfarm employment changes were primarily seasonal," BLS said. "This contrasted with the uptrend, after allowance for seasonal factors, reported each month since last July."

Mid-April nonfarm employment stood at 48.8 million, a record for the season. This was 139,000 above March and 1.3 million above a year earlier.

The 139,000 gain for the month to April 15 was seasonal, reflecting mainly the normal spring rise in construction jobs. Manufacturing employment dropped slightly over the month as clothing and other soft goods industries made the usual post-Easter cutbacks in their work force.

The mid-April factory job total was 17,050,000—some 86,000 below March but 1,056,000 above a year earlier. The gain during the year came in all industries but lumber. Most of the rise came in durable goods where unfilled orders remained high despite record production levels.

## A&P Profits Up 7½% Over 1952

New York (LPA)—Net Profits (after all taxes) of the Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Company (A&P) were 7.5 percent greater in the fiscal year ended February 28 than in 1952. Net profits came to more than \$29 million, on an increase in sales of 10.7 percent.

## N.A.M. PICKET PUSH IN CALIF. COUNTIES

(State Fed. Release)

A campaign to abolish the right of picketing in the various counties of California is now under way with the National Association of Manufacturers having actively entered the state scene.

The Board of Supervisors of Santa Cruz County recently passed an ordinance, a large portion of which is copied from the Yuba County anti-picketing ordinance which the State Supreme Court by unanimous vote held to be unconstitutional in 1942.

During the Santa Cruz Board of Supervisors' hearings on the recently adopted ordinance, the California State Federation of Labor was represented by the legal firm of Todd and Todd.

In presenting arguments against the ordinance, Atty. Clarence Todd declared that similar measures had been passed by Shasta, Yuba, Fresno, Kings and Tulare counties, and by the cities of Redding, Los Angeles and Modesto. He stated that every one of the ordinances had been declared invalid by the courts.

Todd charged that the proposed ordinance would completely prohibit any of the acts which constitute peaceful picketing.

The ordinance was adopted by the Board of Supervisors through agitation by the California Association of Employers and the National Association of Manufacturers.

Santa Cruz Dist. Atty. June D. Borina conceded that parts of the ordinance might be unconstitutional and that it would require "discriminatory enforcement."

Support the labor press.

## Hugo Ernst Rips Left Wing Sheet

(State Fed. Release)

Hugo Ernst, general president of the AFL culinary international, has blasted the self-styled "March of Labor" publication as the work of those who serve the "masters of atheistic Communism." Ernst's charge is carried in this month's issue of "The Catering Industry Employee," official magazine of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees and Bartenders International Union. The "March of Labor" sheet was condemned earlier this year in the official AFL News-Reporter.

## Eisenhower Wants Economic Advisers

President Eisenhower has asked Congress to re-establish the Council of Economic Advisers as a 3-man agency.

The President also said he planned to form an advisory board on economic growth and stability. It would be headed by the council chairman. The President said that the board would keep him informed on the "state of the national economy and the various measures necessary to aid in maintaining stable prosperity."

When we came to the West, we found out...

## Gas and electricity are cheap in California

say the John Brodas, of San Jose



How P. G. and E.'s low rates save the Brodas money

In their comfortable San Jose home, the Brodas use these appliances to make life more pleasant:



The Brodas' P.G. and E. bill (recent month) . . . \$8.57

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In 1951, when they came to California, the Brodas discovered the low cost of gas and electricity here. Like many other newcomers, they pay far less for these utilities than in their former home. Actually P. G. and E. rates are lower than in 1938. Let this bargain gas and electricity lighten your work, add to your leisure.

P. G. and E.

PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY



"Oh, go to sleep. Nobody's going to swipe that new fishing reel."

## New Construction Sets April Record

Washington (LPA) — New construction in April reached \$2.6 billion, the National Production Authority reported. This was an all-time April high, and up 8 percent from the record March figure. Strongest expansion was in highway construction.

## Musicians' 50th Year

Dubuque, Iowa (LPA) — Local 289, AFL Musicians, as part of the celebration of its 50th anniversary, staged a dance with all proceeds going to cancer education and research.

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## A Third of 1953 High School Graduates Get Aptitude Tests

Washington—About one of every three in this year's high school graduates has been given aptitude tests and vocational counseling by state employment services, Secretary of Labor Martin P. Durkin announced here.

The Secretary said reports to the Bureau of Employment Security from state employment services show an estimated 400,000 high school students took aptitude tests and were given vocational counseling during the school year.

The testing program for high school students is part of the overall job counseling and placement program provided by the public employment service for youth, veterans, older workers, and others who are entering the job market for the first time or who need assistance in adjusting on the job.

"The aim of the high school testing and counseling program is to provide students with a wide range of information about themselves and job opportunities, which helps them to choose and find vocational careers where they can do their best work," Secretary Durkin declared.

Twelve tests, included in a general aptitude test battery developed by the U.S. Employment Service in cooperation with state employment services, are available to students at most local public employment offices. They measure nine of the basic aptitudes or abilities needed for success in 20 fields of work embracing more than 2,000 types of jobs. Through these tests, aptitude scores are developed which indicate individual abilities and the fields of work in which the person tested is most likely to be successful.

## Transit Labor Leader In Washington Dies

Washington (LPA) — John H. Cookman, 68, union leader in the transit industry here and for 34 years financial secretary of Division 689, AFL Street Electrical Railway and Motor Coach Employees, died May 29 at his home in Strasburg, Va. He was employed by Capital Transit Co. from 1903 until his retirement in 1951.

Support your labor press. Without it we are speechless.

## AFL-CIO Committee Reaches Accord On 'No Raiding'

Washington (LPA) — A joint committee of the AFL and CIO reached complete agreement June 2 on a pact to end raiding between unions of the two organizations, laying the basis for attaining organic unity.

The ban, after approval at the two conventions and ratification by individual unions, will go into effect next Jan. 1 and continue for a 2-year "breathing space."

Machinery for its enforcement includes the naming of an impartial arbitrator whose decision will be final and binding in disputes which reach him.

Meanwhile, the unity committee will continue its efforts to bring about an honorable merger of the organizations. Its next step will be to explore the extremely complicated problem of the jurisdiction of various AFL and CIO unions.

Announcement of the agreement was made at a press conference in which AFL President George Meany and CIO President Walter P. Reuther and Secretary-Treasurers William F. Schnitzler, AFL, and James B. Carey, CIO, participated following the committee's three-hour session.

"We have agreed to the form of a no-raiding agreement," said Meany, explaining that every phase of it had been discussed but the pact had to be rewritten for clarification before being presented to the next meeting of the AFL Executive Council in August and the CIO Executive Committee and then to the conventions.

Reuther said agreement was reached on "all essential elements" of the pact, that the rewriting was "just a matter of language" which would be left to the unity group's subcommittee consisting of the four top officers plus AFL Vice President Matthew Woll and CIO Steelworkers' President David J. McDonald.

Reuther in pointing out that the no-raiding agreement had been adopted as the "first essential for unity," said, "we will pursue all steps to attain organic unity." Meany called the pact "a big step toward unity."

Meany explained that the Jan. 1 date had been selected as the earliest practical one to allow unions to call board meetings for ratification of the pact, as provided in their constitutions, following the conventions. Signing by the unions was considered by the labor leaders as little more than a formality, since the members of the committee who unanimously agreed on the pact represent leading unions of the two organizations and all unions would take part in the conventions approving the agreement.

Under the agreement, the arbitrator would act as the final step on the complaint of an injured union. Asked what would happen if a union did not accept the arbitrator's decision, Meany replied that it would then be "outside the agreement and itself subject to raiding which we have found doesn't pay."

## Aid of Rabbis Urged On Labor, Industry In Settling Disputes

Fallsburg, NY (LPA) — Aid of rabbis in settling industrial disputes was offered at the convention of the Rabbinical Council of America, whose Social Justice Commission proposed that labor and industry invite such help.

The orthodox rabbinate has "a paramount interest in the field of social justice," said the commission, headed by Rabbi Uri Miller of Baltimore, in terming industrial conflicts "one of the sore spots of our American economy."

A resolution calling upon the Soviet Union to demonstrate good faith by permitting emigration of Jews to Israel was adopted unanimously. It said the Communist way of life was "diametrically opposed to the era of hope and economic and social achievement which awaits our co-religionists in the young democratic state in the Middle East."

## COUNCIL URGES PLANNING TO AVERT A DEPRESSION

(AFL Release)

A Presidential commission to make plans to assure continued prosperity was urged upon the Administration by the AFL Executive Council at its spring session. "While there is no reason for immediate anxiety," said the council, "danger signs overshadow the future economic outlook."

It was pointed out that wholesale prices have been steadily falling, production of a number of key consumer durable goods is in considerable excess of consumer demand, the recent rise in interest rates will have widespread deflationary effects, and the high rate of investment in new plants is not likely to continue. A Korean settlement also would have its effect.

### CAN BE PREVENTED

A course of action to prevent a "destructive flood of depression," decided upon now could prevent such a flood, said the council.

The report follows:

"With the exception of a few industries and areas suffering from chronic dislocation, the American economy is now near the top of prosperity. We do not anticipate a precipitous economic decline in the immediate future. It is plain realism, however, to expect that, in a free competitive economy such as ours, far-reaching adjustments will take place sooner or later unless forestalled by affirmative programs and policies pursued in concert by the government and by voluntary groups and institutions.

"Courses of action to assure continued prosperity must be formulated now. It is too late to try to dam the destructive flood waters of depression when they are already in full tide. Americans have the right to insist on timely formulation of policies that would help sustain continued prosperity and on advance actions which would help prevent a recession.

"While there is no reason for immediate anxiety, danger signs overshadow the future economic outlook. Wholesale prices have been steadily declining for over two years. Consumer prices have not responded significantly to this downward trend. Production of a number of key consumer durable goods is already coming in a volume greater than the estimated potential consumer demand. The recent increase in interest rates on Treasury bonds and insured home mortgages will set off a general rise in interest rates with widespread deflationary effects and with resulting tightening of credit.

### STRENGTHEN MACHINERY

"The exceptionally high rate of investment in new plants and production maintained in recent years is not likely to continue unless future stability of consumer buying expenditures coming on top of these other developments are bound to have a further depressing effect on the economic activity. These factors are clearly in the picture regardless of the possibility of an early settlement of the Korean war. While a Korean settlement should not weaken the defense effort, it will no doubt create a psychology of hesitation and perhaps even anticipation of an economic decline.

"The Employment Act of 1946 provides a limited method for keeping the President, the Congress and the public at large informed about the meaning of current economic development and advised regarding future prospects through the Council of Economic Advisers and the Joint Committee on the Economic Report. We believe that this machinery should be strengthened and made fully effective.

"It is our considered judgment, however, that in the present situation additional measures are needed to enable the country to anticipate and meet any possible threat on an economic crisis.

"To this end we ask that consideration be given to the establishment in the near future of a special Presidential commission which would be charged with the task of making a thorough study of the economic outlook and of bringing forward specific recommendations designed to assure con-

tinuing economic expansion, financial stability and full employment of men and factories on a sound and stable basis.

"We recommend that this commission be composed of qualified representatives from the government agencies concerned, including the Department of Labor, the Department of Commerce and the Council of Economic Advisers, as well as of representatives of labor, business and the farmers.

"We would like to see such a commission established in the near future and charged with the responsibility of presenting its report and recommendations to the President for transmittal to the next session of Congress."

## Economic Boom Is Forecast for California, Texas

Los Angeles.—California and Texas offer tremendous business opportunity in the decade ahead, predicts Dr. Philip Neff of the School of Business Administration on the Los Angeles campus of the University of California.

Dr. Neff, whose specialty is regional business economics, says markets and income will continue to boom in these two states because of technological change, rapidly expanding markets and a plentiful labor supply.

Although the U.G.L.A. professor foresees good business conditions ahead for most sections of the nation, the outlook for some areas is better than others.

Dr. Neff's predictions for other economic regions:

1. The southeastern states will boom because they now have capital to combine with cheap labor and growing markets.

2. New England is at the other end of the economic scale from the South. While it will not stagnate, it will not share in growing prosperity to the same extent as other regions.

3. The Great Lakes region, with its large markets and head start, will keep up with national economic growth. However, business prospects are not exciting.

4. States in the heartland of the nation have a better future than does New England but will not approach the economic growth of the South and the Far West. This area's agricultural base makes it basically vulnerable to economic maladjustments.

## Democrats Publish Magazine to Offset One-Party Press

Washington (LPA)—Aiming to "combat the one-party press," the Democratic Party is publishing a 25c pocket-size magazine, designed for mass consumption. Called the "Democratic Digest," the name previously used for a publication put out for party workers, it starts with the July issue. It will be obtainable on newsstands and by subscription at \$3 a year, two years for \$5. The party has headquarters in the Mayflower Hotel here.

Said Clayton Fritchey, the party's public relations director and editor of the magazine: "In the matter of editorial opinion, it is known that the American press is preponderantly Republican, and it may be in time that the entire press will be in that position." The magazine, he said, will be "the voice of the Democratic Party."

Britain's first allocation this year of canned fruit went on sale June 14.

# REPEATS CHARGES OF TOO MUCH NEEDLESS SURGERY

New York (LPA)—They hauled Dr. Paul R. Hawley before the American Medical Association June 2 because he had the courage to speak out against evils in the profession, and he repeated his charges.

Dr. Hawley had said in a magazine interview last February that there was too much needless surgery, and that the doctors did it for one thing—money; that there was too much fee-splitting, and too much ghost surgery, in which the patient never sees, never knows, who operated on him.

Dr. Hawley is a former medical director of the Veterans Administration, and is presently director of the American College of Surgeons. After his interview appeared there was a terrific uproar from the medics, and the AMA convention got scores of resolutions calling for censure of Dr. Hawley and the College of Surgeons.

So he appeared before the Reference Commission on Legislation and Public Relations, of the AMA House of Delegates, and told them: Not only were his charges true; not only have these charges been "documented from many sources outside of the American College of Surgeons," not only have similar changes appeared in the official AMA publication, the Journal; but that both Dr. Louis H. Bauer, outgoing AMA head, and Dr. Edward J. McCormick, new AMA president, had made similar charges at this very AMA convention.

"All that I have heard here," said Dr. Hawley, "seems to indicate that no one should speak up against the evils in the profession unless it is approved by the American Medical Association as a whole body."

Dr. McCormick had in fact, in his inaugural speech the night before, called on the profession to get rid of the "3 to 5 percent" of the profession "who are unethical, dishonest, and unfair." He said "we cannot protect or condone the few who bring disgrace upon us. We owe to the American people protection from the small number of greedy and godless physicians who flagrantly violate the noble traditions of the medical profession."

And then he admitted that the public has lost faith in the profession, in these words: "By eliminating the wrongdoers . . . we will restore the public faith in the 95 percent of ethical practitioners whose reputations has been tarnished by irresponsible, generalized accusations."

Dr. McCormick repeated the AMA myth that there is no doctor shortage—merely a maldistribution—and quoted figures on voluntary prepaid health insurance plans, designed to show all is well in the best of possible worlds. He noted that at least 90 million Americans carry "hospital, surgical and medical insurance," but did not specify how much of each any segment of that 90 million carried, or how complete or incomplete such coverage was.

## Phone Service Denied Labor Dept. Aides

Fresno (LPA)—Chalk this up to the "economy-minded" Congress; the phone service of the Department of Labor representatives here has been discontinued. Ralph E. Gettys, field representative, said work will be restricted to enforcing the Fair Labor Standards and Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Act with very little time spent in the office. So the only way to contact representatives is by mail, 424 Post Office Building, and an appointment can then be arranged.

## Corporate Earnings Rise up to 464% In First Quarter

New York (LPA)—Corporation earnings for the first quarter of 1953 averaged 10.4 per cent more than in 1952, and ranged as high as 464 percent more, according to a compilation in the Wall Street Journal.

Of 29 groups of corporations, totalling 756 companies, 20 groups showed gains, 9 showed losses. The airlines did best, with an increase of 464 percent; coal companies, worst, with a drop of 71.4 percent.

Right behind the airlines were aircraft manufacturing and supplies with a gain of 91 percent. Then followed floor coverings, 65.6 percent; radio and television, 61.1 percent; electrical equipment, 34.6 percent; food products and baking, 24.6 percent; rubber and rubber goods 22.3 percent; finance companies, 16.4 percent; distillers, 13.3 percent; textiles, 12.2 percent; utilities, 11.8 percent; tools and machinery, 11.1 percent; building materials and equipment, 9.4 percent; chemicals, 9 percent; tobacco companies, 6 percent; pulp and paper products, 0.8 percent.

Coal companies were 71.4 percent behind last year. Others who did worse were: drug manufacturers, 5.7 percent; farm equipment, 17.8 percent; mining and metals, 12.6 percent; printing and publishing, 10.6 percent. Losses to 1.2 percent to 2.3 percent were recorded by movies and movie theaters, office equipment, petroleum products and railway equipment.

## U.C. Men Develop New Hormone Test

San Francisco.—Greater accuracy of dosage and therefore better treatment with ATCH is now possible as a result of the development of a new test by the Metabolic Unit at the University of California School of Medicine, San Francisco.

Dr. Peter Forsham, director of the unit, said that Dr. Grant W. Liddle and others have developed a new and more accurate test to measure the potency of a given batch of ATCH.

The conventional method of measurement of ATCH potency is indirect. It is based upon the stimulation of vitamin C secretion by the adrenal glands of rats.

However, this technique has left much to be desired. ATCH does not always stimulate vitamin C secretion. Nor is vitamin C secretion always accompanied by the excretion of cortisone and related hormones which are the active agents in fighting disease. The result of relying on the vitamin C test is that actual and labeled potency of ATCH are often at variance.

The technique developed by the Metabolic Unit is more direct. It measures the output of steroid hormones in the guinea pig rather than vitamin C secretion. ATCH always stimulates steroid hormone output. The new test is a closer analogy of what happens in human beings, and appears to be more accurate than any other method.

With more accurate knowledge of the potency of a given sample of ATCH, treatment can be better controlled.

## 500 EMPLOYEES RELEASED BY LABOR DEPT.

The Department of Labor has fired 500 employees due to cuts in its budget ordered by the Eisenhower Administration and carried out by the House of Representatives.

Secretary of Labor Martin Durkin said that he could not wait to see what the Senate does with the appropriations bill allotting funds for the fiscal year beginning next July 1 because dismissed workers must be given 30-day termination pay from funds available for the fiscal year ending June 30.

Most of the personnel cuts were in the Wages and Hours Division. Three of the regional offices will have to be closed.

The House cut \$41,634,600 from the amount requested by the Truman Administration.

The slash included reductions of \$415,000 from the Solicitor's Office, which enforces labor laws; \$374,000 from the Bureau of Labor Standards, which helps states develop sound labor practices, promotes employment of the physically handicapped and aids in solving migratory labor problems; \$31 million from grants to states for the administration of employment services and unemployment insurance in spite of the estimates of experts that jobless pay requests will increase next year; and \$6 million from funds used to enforce the Wage-Hour and Walsh-Healey acts—a cut that will affect work involving the 75-cent minimum wage, proper overtime pay and back wages.

The axe-wielding House also chopped off \$537,000 which the Democrats asked for the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, an independent agency which helps to prevent and settle strikes. Another cut of \$104,000 was administered to the National Mediation and Railroad Adjustment boards, which mediate railway labor disputes, determine collective-bargaining representatives of rail unions and hear grievances resulting from railroad union contracts.

## Taxi Local Ended As Ordered by AFL

New York (LPA)—Bowling to orders of the AFL Executive Council, Local 102, AFL Auto Workers, notified its taxicab driver members June 2 that it was out of business. The letter, signed by the local's president, Daniel J. Norton, said Local 102 was being merged with the Teamsters.

That was denied by Thomas L. Hickey, international vices president of the Teamsters in charge of the Eastern region, who said taxi drivers who had been members of the local would be welcomed into the Teamsters, but only as individuals, as no merger was taking place. The week previously, Teamsters' President Dave Beck issued a charter to Local 826, with Hickey as trustee, in the union's drive to organize all the city's hackies.

The Executive Council, in calling for dissolution of Local 102 with the threat of expelling the Auto Workers from the AFL if it did not comply, based its action on the fact that the union had no jurisdiction over drivers and that the men to whom the charter was granted were "strangers with unsavory reputations. Auto Workers' President Lester Washburn said in Milwaukee the decision to fold up Local 102 had been made jointly by the union and the local but the move was not a "charter revocation."

On April 14, 1953, the British interim index of retail prices was 141 as compared with 140 on March 17 and 135 in April 1952. Figures on basis of June 1947 prices equalling 100.



ELECTRONIC DOCTOR—Two big 280-millimeter high explosive projectiles are checked for flaws by the Army's giant X-ray known as Betatron at Picatinny Arsenal, New Jersey

## \$2.9 Billion for New Construction

Washington.—New construction expenditures rose 10 per cent in May to \$2.9 billion, a level six per cent above last May, according to preliminary estimates of the U.S. Labor Dept.'s Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Building Materials Division of the U.S. Dept. of Commerce.

Most of the rise occurred on private residential building and road building, although adverse weather kept these types of work from rising as much as usual in May. Total private expenditures were up eight per cent from April to almost \$2 billion in May, and public outlays rose 13 per cent to \$933 million.

New construction activity as a whole totalled a record \$12.6 billion for the five months January-May 1953, almost six per cent above the 1952 figure for the same months. Private construction, with a value of \$8.7 billion, accounted for nearly the entire gain over last year, largely from increased outlays for new dwelling units and commercial building. Public expenditures totalling \$3.8 billion were but slightly above the January-May 1952 total, as lowered activity on public housing, hospitals, and federal reclamation and development work offset the moderate gains for most other types of public construction.

Private spending for residential building advanced almost nine per cent during May to \$987 million, and was seven per cent above the May 1952 estimate. Despite a rainy spring, total 1953 expenditures through May for new work on private residential building came to more than \$4.3 billion—almost nine per cent above the January-May 1952 total.

May expenditures of \$128 million for commercial building were at the highest monthly rate in two years, and an even higher figure was considered likely for June, according to the Government report.

Private industrial construction remained strong, with outlays almost equaling the April figure. For the first time in 11 months, expenditures for this work were above the year-ago level.

Highway expenditures advanced almost 50 per cent during the month to \$250 million, but the January-May total this year (\$740 million) was only slightly above outlays during the same period in 1952.

## Weekly Earnings Down From March

Washington (LPA)—Weekly earnings of the nation's factory production workers averaged \$71.40 in mid-April, slightly lower than in March but up \$5.70 over the year, the BLS reported. Factory workers' gross hourly earnings, including overtime and other premium pay, averaged \$1.75 in April, the bureau reported, the same as last month but 10 cents higher than in April last year.

## U.S. Labor Market

Washington—Secretary of Labor Martin P. Durkin announced that a new manpower survey indicated the normal spring expansion in job opportunities was picking up momentum, with most major labor market areas anticipating higher employment levels by early summer.

The Secretary said that despite the general nature of the upturn, labor supply in the 182 major non-farm centers surveyed had not tightened appreciably, except in a very few areas. These areas included Detroit, where record auto-production had reduced unemployment by mid-April to an all-time low, and Louisville, Ky., where both defense and civilian activities had bolstered employment levels.

Spot labor shortages have developed, however, in several agricultural areas, Secretary Durkin said, which have made it necessary to supplement short domestic labor supplies by bringing in Mexican farm workers under the international agreement with Mexico.

The surveys, covering 182 major areas and 18 smaller areas, were made by the Bureau of Employment Security and the State employment security agencies.

## Month's Strike Wins Pay Boost at Hershey

Hershey, Pa. (LPA)—In a month-long strike against Hershey Chocolate Co., 3200 members of the AFL Bakery and Confectionary Workers won a pay increase of 7 cents an hour for a year and 10 cents additional for the following 10 months. Recommendations of a Federal mediator were accepted May 17 by union leaders and management.

The maintenance of membership clause was retained in the new 22-month contract after the mediator ruled against a full union shop. Under the former agreement men's wages ranged from \$1.34 to \$2.02 an hour while women were paid \$1.13 to \$2.50.

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# Labor News

TUESDAY, JUNE 16, 1953

## CAL. SENATE KILLS BETTER COMP. LAW

(State Fed. Release)

The death rattle for an improved workmen's compensation law sounded in the Senate Labor Committee on June 9 as the upper house unit killed an AFL sponsored measure to boost temporary weekly benefits to \$40 per week.

Efforts to pass the bill in the closing rush of the 1953 general session failed after a combined employers' lobby rallied forces against any progressive change in the compensation structure.

Senator Hugh M. Burns (D., Fresno) jolted Big Business lobbyists recently by amending the benefit boost into AB 240, a State Federation backed measure that had previously passed the Assembly. As originally introduced by Assemblyman Wallace D. Henderson (D., Fresno), the measure liberalized the total payment formula allowed for temporary disability by repealing those sections of the law which provide that aggregate disability payments for a single injury causing temporary disability shall not exceed four times the average annual earnings of the employee, and that the aggregate disability period for such temporary disability shall not extend beyond 240 weeks from date of the injury.

The Burns weekly benefit boost produced an uproar in the Senate, which referred AB 240 back to the upper house Labor Committee for review.

In a test vote Tuesday, June 9, the committee buried the bill. With four votes needed to adopt, only two senators favored AB 240.

Senators Harold T. Johnson (D., Sierra, Nevada and Placer counties) and Robert I. Montgomery (D., Kings County) voted for the AFL measure.

Senator J. Howard Williams (R., Tulare) voted against labor. Senators F. Presley Abshire (R., Sonoma) and John A. Murdy, Jr. (R., Orange) were present but did not vote. Absent were Senators Jack B. Tenney (R., Los Angeles) and Fred Weybret (R., Monterey).

A later, needless motion to table the bill was made by Senator Williams. It failed to carry, but AB 240 was already thoroughly dead.

The skirmish on workmen's compensation enlivened the closing hours of the tense 1953 session which had found labor whipping the extremist attacks of anti-union forces, but failing to write new laws of its own sponsorship.

An increase in weekly disability insurance benefits from \$30 to \$35 gave the labor movement its only positive victory in social legislation. The disability measure, as sent to Governor Warren, also increases hospital benefits from \$8 to \$10 a day for the 12-day period now allowed by law.

## 'Giveaway' Trend Is Assailed

The "giveaway" trend in Washington was condemned by William F. Schnitzler, secretary-treasurer of the American Federation of Labor, in an address at the annual convention of the Pennsylvania State Federation of Labor. He also called for increased activity by the men and women of the trade union movement in the important field of political education.

Mr. Schnitzler told the delegates, who were in session at Reading, that all the gains which have been made in recent decades for the nation's economic and social well-being are now threatened. One example is the planned raid on social security, he declared.

The A. F. of L.'s secretary-treasurer noted that most of the daily newspapers are failing to tell the American people the full facts about the important developments in Washington, but he said that today no wage-earner has any excuse for being uninformed. Mr. Schnitzler pointed to the Federation's enlightening publications, the Frank Edwards and "As We See It" radio programs and the new A. F. of L. television program, "Both Sides," all of which are aimed at keeping workers and citizens "informed on issues that are vital concern."

The State Federation of Labor, after hearing Mr. Schnitzler, overwhelmingly reiterated its opposition to a state sales tax. Two bills calling for such a tax were before the Legislature at the time of the convention.

## 400 Contractors Now Paying New Scale to Laborers

(Continued from Page One)

ALAMEDA COUNTY: between 100 and 125 contractors have signed the interim wage agreement; an additional 15 have verbal understanding with the Union. 750 men are now employed at the new scale out of 3,300 construction laborers in Alameda County.

SANTA CLARA COUNTY: Fourteen contractors have signed the interim wage agreement, and an additional 7 builders are operating under a verbal understanding, including the N. A. Lamb Construction Company, which has four large scale projects in the County. To date, about 100 laborers are working under signed and verbal agreements. The other building trades crafts, with the leadership of a Steering Committee from the Santa Clara Building Trades Council, are cooperating "100 per cent."

SAN MATEO COUNTY: 35 Builders have signed agreements; 15 more have verbal understandings. Among those signed are the New Bridge Realty Company, which has a 200-house tract going now, and the Parkside Development Co., which has a contract to construct \$9,000,000 worth of residential house—1200 of them. About 100 of the 1200 construction worker members of the Local are working at the new rate. Some 15 of the struck jobs are being picketed.

SACRAMENTO COUNTY: Some 25 Builders, nearly half of the active contractors in the County, have signed agreements. Thirty projects have been shut down by strike action.

NAPA COUNTY: Only two Napa A.G.C. members have not signed the agreement. The rest, 28 Home Builders, including all the large-scale firms, have signed. Employer concurrence with the Union's wage aim is so general there that only 18 laborers and a handful of carpenters are affected. By and large, Napa is paying the new scale.

SOLANO COUNTY: Seventeen contractors, including two with large tracts under way (one of 500 houses in Fairfield, the other with 250 houses under construction in Vacaville) have signed. The response of all rank and file AFL members in Solano has been spontaneous and gratifying. The local Building Trades and Central Labor Councils are taking an active part.

### MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

About 15,000 construction laborers are still out in northern California. Between 8,000 and 10,000 have gone back to work at the new scale. This last is a conservative estimate; some employer sources put the figure higher.

In six counties—Marin, Solano, San Mateo, Santa Cruz, Sacramento and Monterey—some 178 jobs have been shut down, 155 of which are being picketed. In these counties a total of 2380 laborers are out, as are 6080 building tradesmen in other crafts; well over 200 contractors have signed or verbally agreed to the new scale. To these must be added about 100 Alameda County Builders who are paying the new scale. In the neighborhood of 300 jobs are down throughout the 46 counties.

One large-scale A.G.C. member, the J. I. Barnes Construction Company, who is a member of the Southern Chapter of the A.G.C., is paying the new scale on the firm's Porterville Hospital job in Tulare County. He has signed the interim agreement.

No meetings have been scheduled with the A.G.C. Our negotiators, however, are ready to meet with A.G.C. representatives at any time.

### THE ISSUE

The issue has not changed. We are on strike for \$2.05 and wage parity with southern California. Southern Laborer Locals were granted the \$2.05 effective May 15, 1953.

Northern California Laborers live and work in a wage-price area as high as, and in some cases higher than, southern California.

All Laborer Locals have in their possession copies of a wage chart recently issued by the Northern California District Council. This



CORONATION UNION LABEL—Percy Belson (left) and Isaac Wilson, officers of their local of the Civil Service Union, an affiliate of the British Trades Union Congress, were among the traditional Yeomen of the Guard who had a prominent part in the coronation ceremonies for Queen Elizabeth II on June 2. All Yeomen have long field service records in Her Majesty's armed forces. (LPA)

## Bread and Butter Facts Rough Weather Ahead For Ike's Administration

By PETER HENLE

(This is the first in a series of three articles covering the revised budget and tax program recently submitted to Congress by President Eisenhower.)

There's rough weather ahead for the Eisenhower Administration.

Political storm signals appeared just as soon as the President submitted to Congress his revised budget for the Armed Forces.

The President proposed that for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1953, the military take a sharp reduction in funds, the major portion of which would be borne by the Air Force.

The first budget for the 1954 fiscal year was submitted to Congress by outgoing President Truman. Under this budget, the military services would have received \$41.3 billion in new money and would have been permitted to spend a total of \$45.5 billion during this next fiscal year.

The figure for expenditures is larger than the total of new money because the military will be spending money that has been appropriated in previous years. Because heavy military equipment such as aircraft, tanks, and guided missiles normally require several years from the drawing board to the production line, money for these items has to be available years in advance of actual expenditures.

The Truman budget provided for appropriations of \$41.2 billion and expenditures of \$45.5 billion for the Armed Forces. Eisenhower's revised budget cut this amounts to \$36 billion in appropriations and \$43.2 billion in expenditures.

Here's how the reduced appro-

chart shows clearly that Northern Laborers, have, because of the percentage increases in use since 1946, fallen behind in relation to other building trades crafts.

The wages of Northern Laborers, as the chart clearly shows, have been steadily dropping. We are at present 20 cents behind Southern California and 25c behind Oregon, where employers granted a 25c increase effective May 1, 1953.

The A.G.C.'s argument that if Northern construction laborers are granted the 20c they ask they will then be 7½c ahead of Southern California (because we have welfare and the Southern Locals do not) is false. What the A.G.C. is concealing is that its Southern Chapter has agreed to talk welfare with the Southern California District Council later this year. It is more than likely that Southern laborers will have their \$2.05 scale—plus welfare—by January 1 of next year. Our negotiators must, therefore, anticipate these developments if wage-welfare parity is to be established.

priations will be spread among the Armed Forces. It is clear that the Air Force bears the brunt of the cut.

Secretary of Defense—Truman budget, \$1 billion; Eisenhower, \$1 billion; no change.

Army—Truman budget, \$12.1 billion; Eisenhower, \$13.7 billion; up \$1.6 billion.

Navy—Truman budget, \$11.4 billion; Eisenhower, \$9.6 billion; decrease \$1.8 billion.

Air Force—Truman budget, \$16.7 billion; Eisenhower, \$11.7 billion; decrease \$5 billion.

How will these cuts affect the nation's defense program? The President says that we can have equally effective military protection with less money. In his judgment, the reduced budget "represents what is best for our nation's permanent security."

A number of senators and congressmen take issue with this. They point out that the Air Force 143-wing program scheduled to be ready in June 1956 has been dropped to provide only 120 wings. For June of 1954, the new budget will support only 110 wings instead of a scheduled 133. The Air Force also argues that the cut in appropriating authority will mean reduced delivery of military aircraft in 1953 and 1954.

Meanwhile, from allegedly "inside sources," come reports of a different controversy raging within the new Administration, a controversy over the type of emphasis that should be given to our defense program. The controversy has been sparked by a special government study which reportedly has shown that the nation's air and civil defense system would be totally inadequate in the event of enemy attack.

The question has thus arisen whether the nation should embark on a more ambitious defense program to strengthen its air raid warning and anti-aircraft facilities. However, there is no indication that the new Administration is moving in this direction.

These issues involving the size and emphasis of the nation's defense program are questions that could easily determine the fate of the free world. Despite their importance, these issues have not yet been thoroughly discussed with the American public.

### SLOW TIRE LEAK

Slow leaks in your tires are usually caused by a defective tire valve or some small object such as a phonograph needle or sliver of glass in the inner-tube. When an abnormal air loss is observed in any tire, have the tire dismounted and carefully examined.

Support your stewards!